

REMARKS

New main claim 38 is directed to inscribing gemstones. The fusible material has a melting point greater than that of the gemstones (for support, see page 5, second paragraph, of the specification). When heated, the fusible material forms cavities in the gemstones (see Figs. 3B and 3C). These cavities constitute the marking pattern inscribed in the gemstones.

As previously argued, Langan of record discloses paper labels. Newly cited U.S. Patent No. 6,329,631 to Yueh is directed to a solder strip. When the solder paste 12 is melted, the solder flows on top of each of the gold dots on the top surface of a carrier to bond a semiconductor in place (col. 1, lines 41-43). The solder has a melting point less than the gold dots onto which the solder flows. The gold dots are not inscribed. No cavities are formed in the gold dots. No marking patterns are inscribed in the gold dots.

Newly cited U.S. Patent No. 3,464,617 to Raynes discloses an adhesive coated tape for sweat soldering pipes and is not seen as relevant to applicant's gemstone marking method. Certainly Raynes' tape has no cutouts, and performs no marking function.

Brown of record discloses a cover layer 115 that is used to protect finger contacts 101 from dirt (col. 6, lines 33-35), and does not cover any cutouts.

In summary, the applied art does not describe any inscribing of gemstones with cavities that constitute marking patterns.

Wherefore, a favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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